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CIA-RDP81-00280R000100020006-6 50X1-HUM

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INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

USSR

SUBJECT

Pilotage, Anchorage, Security Measures, Port
Conditions, and Facilities/Ships Observed/
Miscellaneous Information

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18 Sept 1956

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT #

RESPONSIVE TO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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or reserve personnel on short-term active duty (excepting individuals who are normally full-time employees of CIA, AEC, FBI, State or Defense).

4. [redacted] six or seven [redacted] merchant ships at Odessa, two [redacted] two [redacted] five [redacted] and two [redacted] as well as approximately 30 Soviet [redacted] They were loading mostly iron plate, grain, and general cargo. At point #10 on the overlay, merchant ships had to berth three metres from the quay where water is 27 feet, six inches, but too shallow for mooring any closer. At point #11, [redacted] the former Rumanian passenger ship Pasaraabia or the Transylvania. Also at Odessa, [redacted] eight small Soviet Navy patrol craft, which appeared to be new construction and were armed with one small caliber antiaircraft gun [redacted] also [redacted] an old Soviet 50X1-HUM warship of about six thousand tons. Sketch of this vessel is item (2)

[redacted] In area #7 on the overlay, [redacted] old, pre-World War I Soviet naval craft, types unknown. At point #15 on the overlay inside the main breakwater, there were several old concrete 50X1-HUM hulls. 50X1-HUM

5. [redacted] the old "castle" or fortress shown south of the Quarantine Harbor [redacted] contained an antiaircraft battery. [redacted] it fired apparently as a salute on May Day. [redacted] it was in the old "castle," shown as point #9 on the overlay. The main breakwater at Odessa is now completely repaired. On the Quarantine Mole [redacted] two grain elevators and one "silo," and [redacted] this equipment could handle about 500 tons an hour. At point #8, the port 50X1-HUM police had their headquarters. 50X1-HUM

6. Poti

[redacted] The wharf areas were served by traveling cranes which appeared to be of US manufacture, but with US trade names removed and Soviet name plates substituted. [redacted] the USSR got these cranes 50X1-HUM from the US in 1945. There were railroad tracks on the docks, and drinking and boiler water were available. Before World War II, the water at Poti was unfit to drink, but now it is so pure that it is almost distilled. [redacted] tests indicated that it had only 0.5 grain salinity. [redacted] less 50X1-HUM than 10 oil storage tanks, and they were of medium size. 50X1-HUM

7. [redacted] Loading was done by 50X1-HUM wharfside cranes operating grabs which moved the ore from railroad cars to the ship. [redacted] one Yugoslav merchant vessel at Poti and two Soviet ships, all loading ore. At point #3 on the overlay, [redacted] 10 motor 50X1-HUM torpedo boats and [redacted] a submarine building in the repair yard. [redacted] parts of a U-Boat in the yards adjacent to various buildings. In the Inner Basin, [redacted] a marine railway and a dry dock.

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Comments Applicable to Both Ports

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8. With respect to Odessa and Poti, [] the Soviets are trying to make these "model" ports for foreigners to see. Security was relaxed, the people appeared happy, and women were no longer subjected to back-breaking labor on the waterfront. []

[] at other Soviet ports, such as Sevastopol, conditions were just the same as in Stalin's lifetime. Prices were very high, the exchange rate being four rubles to US\$1, and a one-pound loaf of bread costs US\$0.36, and a pack of US cigarettes US\$2. The people on the streets gave the impression of being friendly and anxious to talk with strangers.

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Miscellaneous

9. [] a Soviet-made six-tube super heterodyne radio with one stage of untuned R.F. It contained a six-inch speaker, had a very light frame, and seemed to be of cheap construction. A switch on the back provided use with 115 V., 127.5 V., and 220 V. electricity. Frequency coverage was 300 kc to 30 mc continuous. An external antenna must be used, and tubes were exact copies of US tubes, two of them were carrying the same type numbers, 6K7 and 6&7, although obviously of Soviet make. The radio cost approximately US\$90.

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10.



[] (1) Overlay to Figure 2-4, NIS 26, Supplement 1D; (2) Sketch of Soviet Naval Vessel; and (3) Overlay to Figure 2-25, NIS 26, Supplement 1-D. Confidential.

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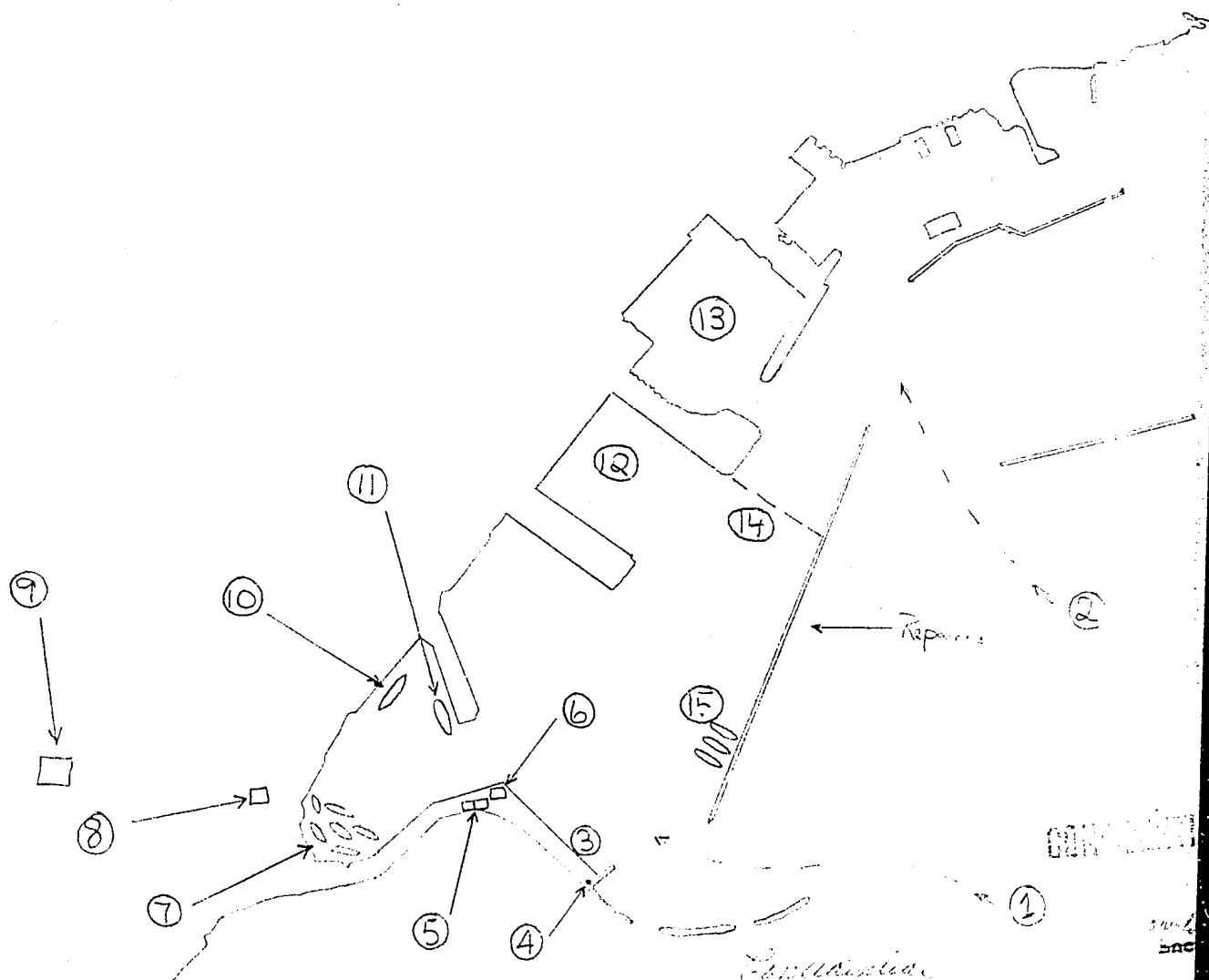
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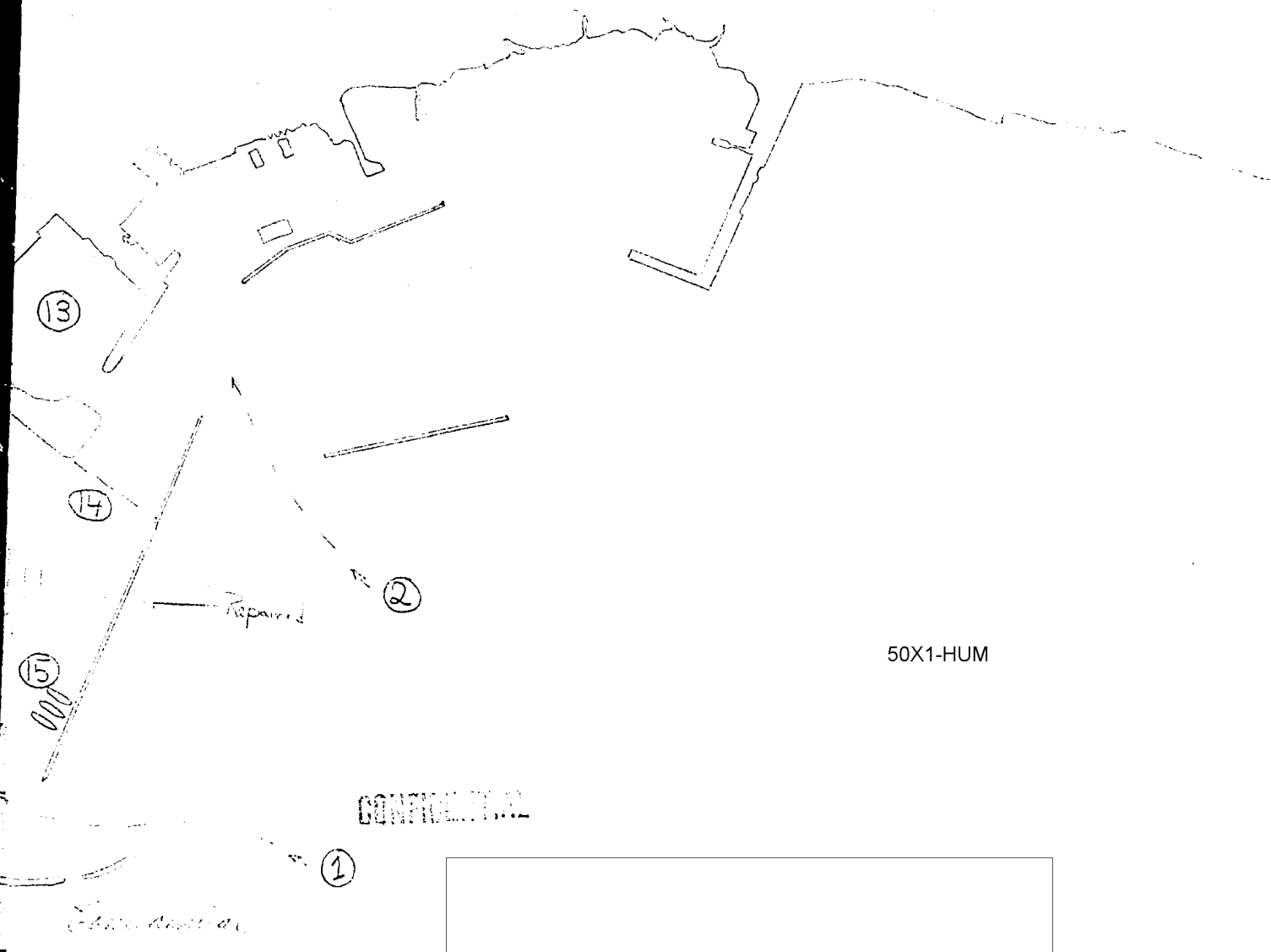
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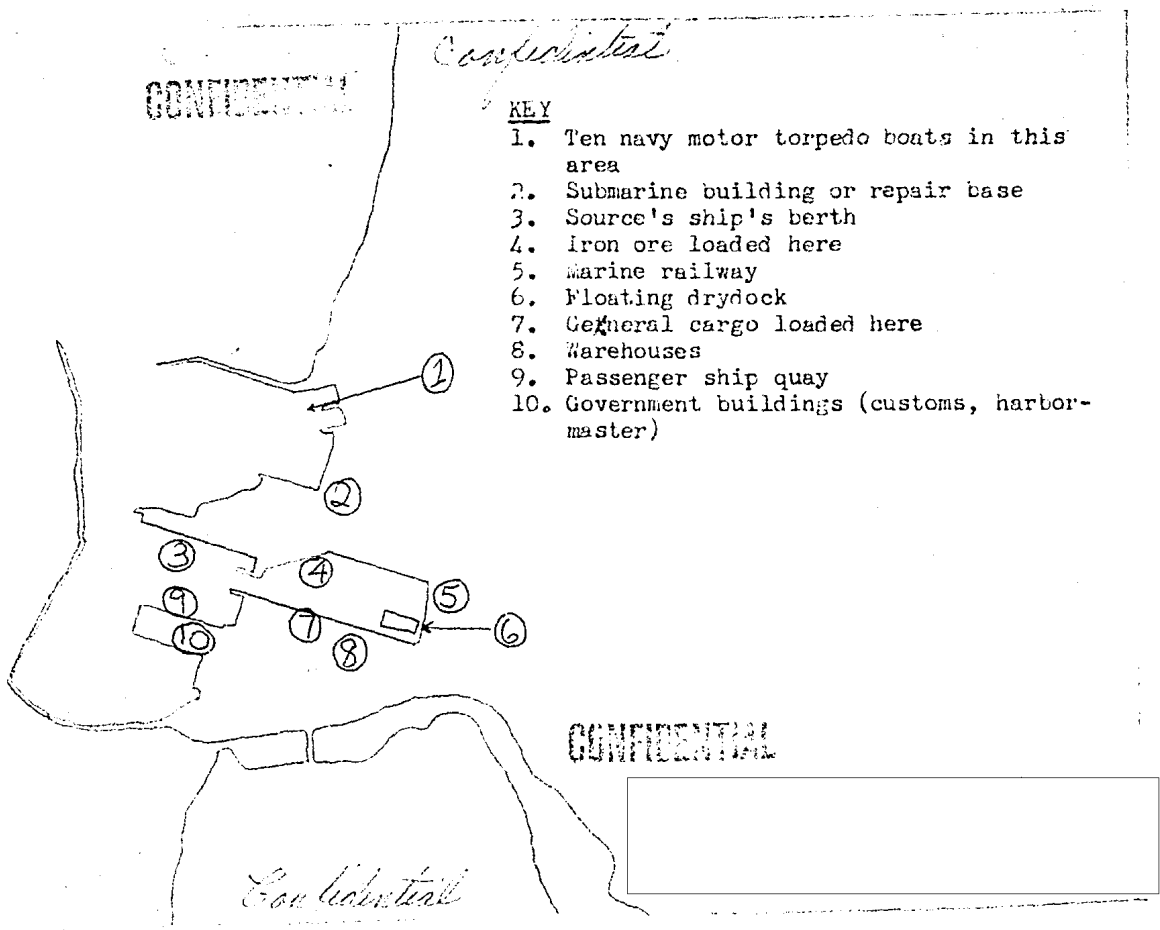
KEY

1. Track for large ships
2. Track for small ships
3. Source's ship's berth
4. Observation tower
5. Two grain elevators
6. Grain "silo"
7. Old hussian naval vessels - types unknown
8. Port police headquarters
9. Old castle from which AA guns fired
10. Depth at this quay 27'6"
11. Former kumanian ship PASARABIA or TRANSYLVANIA
12. Mostly coal cargo handled in this basin
13. Mostly general cargo handled in this basin
14. Foreign ships not allowed past this point
15. Hulls (old) made of concrete



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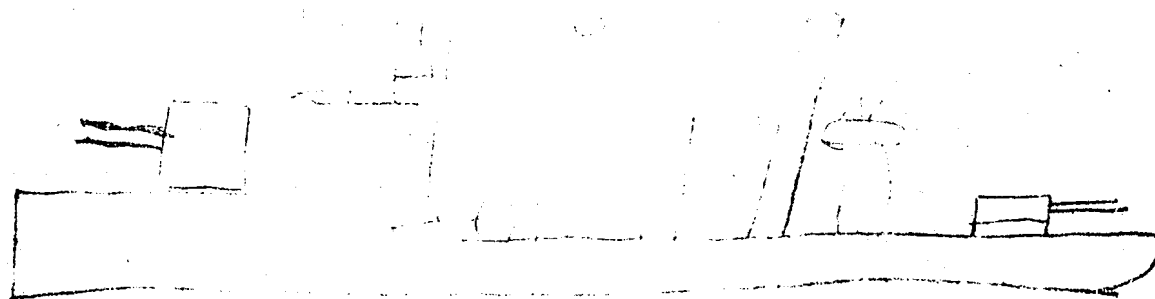




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In Odesa.

1 Russian Naval vessel seen (very old).
about 6000 tons.

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